



Kevin V. Schieffer
President & Chief Executive Officer

4 April 2006

Ms. Victoria Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
U.S. Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Rutson:

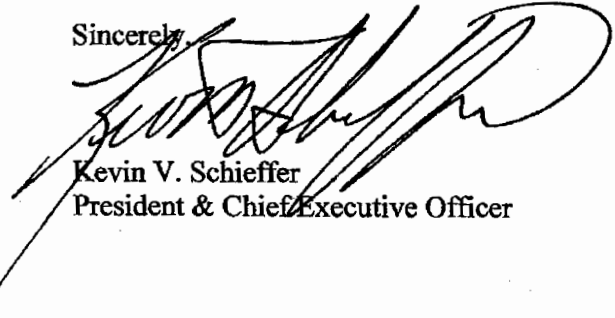
This is provided as an update to our Community Agreement outreach program. At the time STB issued its final decision in our case, we had Community Partnership Agreements in place with 52 of the 56 communities through which our project traversed. We believe that reaching an agreement with 93% of the communities in any traffic-driven case is unprecedented.

However, I am pleased to inform you that since that time we have reached agreements with three additional communities. They are (1) Pierre, SD; (2) Eagle Lake, MN; and (3) Brookings, SD. I believe Mayor Eisnach already sent you a copy of the Pierre Agreement. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the fully executed Eagle Lake Agreement. I will forward a copy of the fully executed Brookings Agreement as soon as we receive it.

We would appreciate it if you would afford to these three additional agreements the same degree of confidentiality as the 52 currently on file at the STB. We take considerable pride in the fact that we have reached agreement with over 98% of the communities along our line.

As information, the City of Rochester is the only community on our proposed route that has not entered into an agreement, and to date has refused to enter into mitigation negotiations. We are hopeful they will chose to do so before the litigation deadline. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Kevin V. Schieffer
President & Chief Executive Officer

KVS:lma (kvalword\VRutson 4April06)

C: The Honorable Dennis Eisnach, Mayor of Pierre, SD
The Honorable Tim Auringer, Mayor of Eagle Lake, MN
The Honorable Scott Munsterman, Mayor Brookings, SD
The Honorable Ardell Brede, Mayor of Rochesters

Enclosure